

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An extendable rack coupled to a vehicle, the extendable rack comprising:

a retainer fixedly attached to the vehicle; and

an elongated slidable member, slidably attached to the retainer such that sliding the slidable member in a direction away from the retainer extends the extendable rack and sliding the slidable member in a direction toward the retainer retracts the extendable rack, said slidable member having a plurality of holding elements for holding items on the extendable rack, wherein a plurality of retaining pieces are removably attached to the holding elements with an elasticized cord being coupled each retaining piece, the elasticized cord being in the configuration of a loop.

2. (Original) The extendable rack of claim 1 wherein the retainer is fixedly attached to the vehicle by being mounted against one of a utility rack coupled to the vehicle and a ceiling portion of the vehicle.

3. (Original) The extendable rack of claim 2 wherein at least a portion of the slidable member having holding elements can be positioned beyond a rear portion of the vehicle when the extendable rack is extended.

4. (Original) The extendable rack of claim 3 wherein the retainer and slidable member are tubular in shape and coaxially disposed with respect to one another.

5. (Withdrawn) The extendable rack of claim 4 wherein at least one of the holding elements is a hook.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The extendable rack of claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein the holding element is an aperture having ~~further comprising a~~ an integral notch ~~integral to the~~ aperture.

8. (Withdrawn) The extendable rack of claim 4 further comprising a reinforcement insert coaxially disposed within the slidable member.

9. (Withdrawn) The extendable rack of claim 8 wherein the slidable member is comprised of polyvinyl chloride plastic.

10. (Withdrawn) The extendable rack of claim 8 wherein the reinforcement insert is comprised of wood and plastic.

11. (Currently Amended) An extendable rack comprising:

a tubular shaped retainer having a slit extending longitudinally along a length of the retainer; ~~and~~

a slidable member with at least a portion of the slidable member coaxially disposed within the retainer, the slidable member having ~~at least one of a plurality of circular apertures, each aperture having an integral notch; configured for receiving a and~~  
a retaining ball piece received in each of the apertures, the retaining pieces further being connected to elasticized cords fixed in a looped configuration which can extend through the integral notches and a hook attached to the slidable member.

12. (Original) The extendable rack of claim 11 further comprising a mounting strip for mounting the extendable rack to a surface.

13. (Original) The extendable rack of claim 12 further comprising a support strip coupled between the mounting strip and the retainer.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method of hanging items on a rack comprising:

providing a tubular shaped retainer having a slit extending longitudinally along a length of the retainer;

providing a tubular shaped slidable member with at least a portion of the slidable member coaxially disposed within the retainer, the slidable member having ~~at least one of~~ a plurality of circular apertures with integral notches and a retaining piece disposed within each of the apertures, with a looped elasticized cord coupled to each retaining piece and with each elasticized cord extending through at least one of the integral notches and ~~a hook attached to the slidable member with a portion of the hook aligned with said slit in the retainer;~~

sliding the slidable member with respect to the retainer; and

hanging at least one item on at least one of the elasticized cords attached to the slidable member.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein there is a mounting strip coupled to the retainer.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein there is a support strip disposed between the mounting strip and the retainer.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein there is a reinforcement insert coaxially disposed within the retainer.